



**Bridger Bowl Association
Spring Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2015
7:00 p.m. Holiday Inn, Bozeman**

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: Randy Elliott, General Manager; Dave Ballinger, Treasurer, Steve Pohl, Julie Bennett, Diane Allen, Martha Collins, Mark Manseau, Doug Mavor

CALL TO ORDER

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He introduced himself; fellow board members: Julie Bennett, Diane Allen, Martha Collins, Mark Manseau and Doug Mavor; Randy Elliott, Dave Ballinger and Lindsay Korth. Steve noted the absent board members Robb Larson, Doug Monger and Kelly Wiseman.

MINUTES

The 2014 Fall Association Meeting minutes were circulated for review. Bob Pettit moved to approve the minutes; Marshall Bennett seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor; minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dave Ballinger

Dave presented the Income Budget Report for period ending April 30, 2015. Skier visits were above average, increasing income and labor expenses in most departments. Season pass sales greatly exceeded budget. Net profit for the year was \$1.77 million, approximately \$1 million better than budget.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Steve Pohl

Cell Service – Bridger Bowl entered into a contract with Atlas Tower last summer to provide cell service to the ski area. It is unlikely that Atlas will complete construction in time to have cell coverage for the 2015 – 2016 ski season.

Alpine Cabin – Steve commended prior board members Bob Petit, Kristie McPhie and everyone else who contributed to the Alpine Cabin; it was a highly successful project, resulting in a lot of positive feedback.

Park & Ride – The Transportation Committee continues to discuss options for a new Park & Ride area; currently the project of the status with the City of Bozeman is unknown.

Sale of the Crosscut Ranch – The board met with representatives of the Bridger Biathlon Club, the new owners of the Crosscut Ranch. They will be fundraising to develop and improve winter outdoor recreation facilities. A synopsis of their plans will be available soon.

Updated Master Plan – Bridger’s major accomplishment this year was updating the Master Plan. This plan brings us up to date with the facilities and lifts based on various projections over the next five years.

Great Season – Steve commended management and their employees for the outstanding season, noting their talent in conserving when necessary. Bridger was fortunate to have more snow than many other places in the country.

MANAGER’S REPORT – Randy Elliott

Staff – The employees that were present stood as Randy recognized them for their hard work.

Master Plan – He gave a brief history of Bridger Bowl’s Master Plans that management has been creating since the 1950’s. He presented the current 5-year Master Plan which showed the new Beginner Area and an expansion to the Saddle Peak Lodge for Snowsports, Retail/ Rental and Seasonal Lockers. The plan also showed future, longer-term possibilities of moving the Jim Bridger Lodge east and building a lift to Bradley Meadows.

Open Forum – Randy opened the floor to questions.

Questions from the Floor –

1. Can Bridger increase the projected maximum number of 6100 skier visits per day if you expand their current ski area boundary?
 - Yes. However, Randy feels it is important to maintain a low ratio of skier per acre.
2. Is the complete Master Plan available to the public?
 - Yes. It will be on Bridger Bowl’s website soon.
3. Are there plans for summer trail building in the new plan?
 - Yes. The plan includes very little information on summer recreation, such as biking, hiking and horseback riding. Bridger will continue to cooperate and encourage this activity, treating Bridger land as Forest Service land. To remain consistent with the Bridger Bowl Mission Statement, this plan does not include construction or maintenance of new trails, nor the use of lift operations during the summer months.
4. What is the current capacity of skier visits per day?
 - Randy feels we are currently comfortable at about 4,000 skier visits per day. Once it grows from that, it tends to feel much busier and more congested especially in the base area.
5. Would we need an additional or larger base area in order to provide for more than 6100 skier visits per day?
 - Yes. Bridger would need to expand the base area.

FOUNDATION – Marshall Bennett

Marshall noted that Chris Bulger provided a detailed report in the Bridger Bowl Association Spring Bulletin. A few highlights included the 205 scholarships the Foundation provided for participation in Snowsports classes and the 194 donors that donated to the Alpine Cabin. Marshall thanked everyone for their generous contributions, effort and support. The Foundation will be at the BSF Ski Swap this October. Marshall honored Roger Bay who passed away this April. Roger was a huge supporter of the Bridger Bowl Foundation, encouraging Chris to follow through with the idea when Roger was the Board President. Marshall shared some personal stories of his friend as well. The Bridger Bowl community and friends will dearly miss Roger Bay.

NEW MEMBERS – Julie Bennett

Julie presented the following membership applications for ratification: Ryan Anderson, Lyn Ashby, Douglas Bartholomew, Patty Bartholomew, Matthew Brailsford, Matt Conner, Bill Fanning, Kristin Fanning, Sarah Fricke, Weston Fricke, Timothy Gardner, Paul Grinde, Henry Happel, John Harrison, Jim Jacobs, Ronald Judkins, Georg Kirschner, Gary Kittams, Roger Matthew, Matthew McKee, Peter Miller, Josh Minalga, Michael Mollett, Ada Montague, Montana Telemark Corporation, Bill Murdock, Ryan O’Callaghan, Daniel Oliver, Ben Phinney, John Priscu, Mary Ritter, Will Ritter, Karson Earl Rosander, Bob Rule, Carrie Rule, Todd Schilling, Steve Sennewald, Megan Shuman, Greg Smith, Jim Walker, David Weaver, Jeanie Westnedge and Kenneth Younger. Kristie McPhie moved to ratify the new members; Andy Epple seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried, memberships approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Bridger Artifacts – Steve circulated some very old Bridger Bowl brochures that his brother found.
Board Member Retiree – Steve recognized Doug Monger (absent) for his two 3-year consecutive terms on the Bridger Bowl Board of Directors. Doug always tried to look out for the best of Bridger Bowl; he will receive a plaque for his role on the board, as well as a print of a combined photograph and oil painting by local photographer Travis Anderson and Steve’s daughter Rachel Pohl.

BOARD NOMINATIONS – Steve Pohl

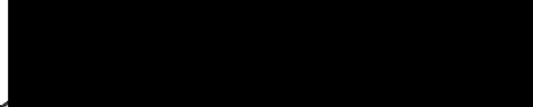
Steve announced that the board recommended Pat Hoffman as the nominee to replace outgoing board member Doug Monger. The board also recommended current members Robb Larson and Kelly Wiseman to serve their second 3-year terms. All three of the nominees were absent from the meeting. Robb was out of town visiting family so Steve presented the short video that Robb created in advance for Association members. Steve read the biographical statements for Kelly, who was out of town for his mother’s funeral, and Pat’s, as he arrived late due to an awards ceremony at the Bozeman High School. The board seeks to nominate Association members with diversity in background and a professional, knowledgeable skill set. Steve called three times for nominations from the floor. No members made a nomination; Steve closed the nominations. Bridger Bowl will send out voting ballots the first week of June.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Steve welcomed a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kerry Reif moved the meeting be adjourned; Andy Epple seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. Steve adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.



STEVE POHL, PRESIDENT



KELLY WISEMAN, SECRETARY